

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

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IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

EUR/P - MR. SAVAGE

NEA/ARN - MR. KORN

H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)

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R 262104Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USINT DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY SANAA
USINT BAGHDAD

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GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING JUNE 26, 1974:

QUOTE: Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY AEC ANNOUNCEMENTS ON THE
REACTORS OR AEC --

A. WELL, I UNDERSTAND CHAIRMAN RAY SIGNED CONTRACTS ---
(FOR NUCLEAR FUEL FOR EGYPT AND ISRAEL). YOU WOULD HAVE TO
GO FOR FURTHER DETAILS TO AEC. I WOULD ONLY REMIND YOU
THAT THE CONTRACTS ARE PROVISIONAL UNTIL THERE IS AN OVERALL
AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION NEGOTIATED WITH THE TWO PARTIES
INVOLVED HERE -- SUCH COVERING AGREEMENT TO INCLUDE THE
APPROPRIATE SAFEGUARDS.

Q. HAS OUR AMBASSADOR TO THE SUDAN SPOKEN WITH THE FOREIGN
MINISTRY THERE YET, OR THE PRESIDENT, AND DELIVERED THE
SENTIMENTS?

A. YES. HE SPOKE TO BOTH THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND PRESI-
DENT NIMEIRI TODAY.

Q. TODAY? WHAT WAS THE RESPONSE?

A. I REALLY DON'T CARE TO CHARACTERIZE IT FOR YOU.

Q. WELL, IT WASN'T SATISFACTORY? HE IS STILL ON HIS WAY
HOME?

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A. I EXPECT HE WILL BE RETURNING SOON.

Q. HAS THE DEPARTMENT SATISFIED ITSELF YET AS TO WHETHER
THOSE GUERRILLAS HAVE, IN FACT, BEEN GIVEN A SAFEHAVEN IN
CAIRO?

A. OUR INFORMATION IS THAT THEY DID GO TO CAIRO AND THIS
SUBJECT HAS COME UP FOR DISCUSSION BETWEEN OURSELVES AND

THE EGYPTIANS.

AT THIS POINT, I CAN'T GO BEYOND THAT.

Q. CAN YOU JUST TELL US AT WHAT LEVEL? WHEN YOU SAY
"DISCUSSIONS" -- HERE, OR IN CAIRO?

A. THERE.

Q. WHEN YOU SAY YOU DON'T CARE TO CHARACTERIZE IT, DO YOU
MEAN THE EXCHANGE WAS SO AWFUL THAT YOU CAN'T BEAR TO
REPEAT IT -- OR WHAT?

A. NO, I THINK JUST AS A PRACTICAL MATTER OF POLICY, THAT
THEY SHOULD SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES. (SUDANESE)

Q. WELL, WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPEAK FOR THE AMERICAN SIDE ON
THIS?

A. WE HAVE SPOKEN. OUR ATTITUDE WAS SPELLED OUT QUITE
PLAINLY, YESTERDAY.

Q. YES, BUT I MEAN ON THE BASIS OF TODAY'S CONVERSATION,
WOULD YOU LIKE --

A. WELL, THE DISCUSSION FROM OUR SIDE WOULD HAVE REFLECTED
THE STATEMENT WE ISSUED HERE YESTERDAY.

Q. ARE WE GOING TO CUT OFF WHATEVER LITTLE AID PROGRAMS
WE DO HAVE FOR THE SUDAN?

A. CAN'T SAY. I WOULD PREFER TO AWAIT THE RETURN OF
AMBASSADOR BREWER AND THE DISCUSSIONS WE WILL HAVE WITH
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HIM.

Q. WHEN IS HE EXPECTED BACK?

A. DIRECTLY. I DON'T KNOW THE -- I DON'T KNOW HIS
IMMEDIATE PLANS -- I'M SPEAKING ABOUT "TODAY" FOR EXAMPLE.

Q. HE'S NOT GOING TO MAKE ANY STOPS ALONG THE WAY?

A. NO.

Q. WHAT ARE YOU DISCUSSING WITH CAIRO?

A. THE MATTER OF THE EIGHT BLACK SEPTEMBER ORGANIZATION
TERRORISTS WHO LEFT THE SUDAN YESTERDAY AND TURNED UP IN

CAIRO.

Q. WHAT DO YOU WANT THE EGYPTIANS TO DO?

A. I WOULD RATHER NOT -- I WON'T GO BEYOND WHAT I'VE TOLD YOU.

Q. IS IT YOUR INFORMATION THAT THE GUERRILLAS ARE NOW IN EGYPT?

A. YES.'

Q. ARE WE SATISFIED WITH THE EGYPTIAN POSITION IN ALLOWING THEM IN, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES?

A. I'M GOING TO STAND ON WHAT I SAID.

Q. CAN YOU TELL US AT WHAT LEVEL IN EGYPT THIS WAS BROUGHT OUT?

A. AT AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL.

Q. CAN YOU SAY WHETHER THE FACT THAT EGYPT HAS ACCEPTED THESE PEOPLE -- DOES THAT ENDANGER THE EASING OF RELATIONS THAT HAS BEEN GOING ON BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND EGYPT? OR DOES IT NOT ENDANGER IT?
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A. I THINK IT WOULD BE MOST PRUDENT FOR ME TO STICK WITH WHAT I SAID.

Q. THEN WHY ARE WE EVEN BRINGING IT UP WITH THEM IF YOU WON'T CHARACTERIZE OUR CONCERN, OUR POSITION, AT ALL?

A. LET ME JUST SAY THAT OBVIOUSLY WE TAKE THIS VERY SERIOUSLY. THERE IS A STRONG FEELING ABOUT IT HERE, AND FOR OUR OWN REASONS, I JUST WILL NOT GO INTO DETAILS DISCUSSING OUR DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS ON THIS MATTER.

Q. WELL WHEN YOU SAY THAT WE OBVIOUSLY TAKE THIS VERY SERIOUSLY, WHAT YOU ARE REFERRING TO IS THE FACT THAT THEY WERE ALLOWED INTO CAIRO AT ALL? IS THAT WHAT YOU TAKE SERIOUSLY?

A. WHAT I TAKE VERY SERIOUSLY IS THE UNJUSTIFIED "LEGAL" ACTION BY WHICH THESE PEOPLE WERE RELEASED. THEY ARE CONFESSED MURDERERS OF AN AMERICAN AMBASSADOR AND HIS CHIEF DEPUTY; AND A BELGIAN DIPLOMAT -- AND THE STATEMENT WE ISSUED YESTERDAY, I THINK, PRETTY WELL CONVEYS TO YOU THE

FLAVOR OF OUR FEELINGS IN THIS MATTER.

Q. BUT WHAT WE WERE ASKING ABOUT TODAY WAS NOT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S POSITION TOWARDS THE SUDAN. THAT WAS MADE AMPLY CLEAR YESTERDAY. BUT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S POSITION TOWARDS EGYPT -- ALLOWING THESE PEOPLE IN -- AND I JUST WANTED TO BE ABSOLUTELY SURE THAT THAT -- IS THAT, THEN, NOT WHAT YOU WERE REFERRING TO?

A. THAT IS WHAT I AM REFUSING TO DISCUSS.

Q. SO THAT LAST STATEMENT, WHEN YOU TALKED ABOUT THE STRONG FEELINGS, WAS NOT RELATED TO THE GUERRILLAS COMING INTO CAIRO?

A. IT WAS RELATED TO -- IT WAS A PIECE OF WHAT WE SAID YESTERDAY.

WHAT I AM REFUSING TO DISCUSS IS THE DISCUSSIONS WE ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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HAVING WITH THE EGYPTIANS.

Q. WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF EGYPT?

Q. IS THAT A NORMAL CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION?

A. IT WAS A NORMAL CHANNEL, YES.

Q. DIDN'T THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT INFORM THE UNITED STATES OF EGYPT'S WILLINGNESS TO PUT ITS AIR FORCE AT THE DISPOSAL OF LEBANON FOR DEFENSE PURPOSES -- IF NECESSARY?

A. NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE.

I SAW THAT REPORT. I WON'T HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THAT REPORT, BUT OBVIOUSLY, THE POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES IN THIS MATTER IS WELL KNOWN.

WE THINK RESTRAINT IS CALLED FOR ON THE PART OF ALL PARTIES INVOLVED.

Q. HAVE WE SPECIFICALLY ASKED THE ISRAELIS TO RESTRAIN THEMSELVES FROM RETALIATION IN THIS PARTICULAR INCIDENT?

A. CAN'T SAY. END QUOTE. SISCO

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